

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCSE-00 H-02 SCA-01 L-02 /016 W

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P 132305Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7717

UNCLAS MEXICO 4135

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DAVID JULYAN TO MEXICO CITY

REF: MEXICO 3964

1. EMBASSY WAS FIRST ADVISED OF MR. JULYAN'S VISIT TO MEXICO CITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INTERVIEWING AMCIT PRISONERS ON AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY, MAY 2. ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE THE SAME AFTERNOON WITH LECUMBERRI PREVENTIVE JAIL FOR VISIT BY MR. JULYAN AND ACCOMPANYING CONOFF ANYTIME ON TUESDAY, MAY 6. MAY 5, THE DAY OF HIS ARRIVAL, WAS AN IMPORTANT MEXICAN HOLIDAY. ON THE MORNING OF MAY 6, EMBASSY WAS NOTIFIED BY CHIEF OF SECURITY AT LECUMBERRI THAT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION FOR MR. JULYAN'S VISIT WOULD HAVE TO BE OBTAINED FROM DIRECCION JURIDICA Y DE GOBERNACION, DEPARTMENT OF THE FEDERAL DISTRICT. EMBASSY IMMEDIATELY SENT LETTER TO THAT OFFICE BY HAND, REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION, BUT WAS INFORMED THAT REQUEST MUST BE REFERRED TO THE SENIOR OFFICIAL OF FEDERAL DISTRICT.

2. THE EMBASSY ATTEMPTED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE SENIOR OFFICIAL, BUT HE WAS UNAVAILABLE THAT DAY AND THE ONE FOLLOWING. THE SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY, THE EMBASSY RECEIVED WRITTEN COMMUNICATION FROM DIRECCION JURIDICA ADVISING THAT REQUEST SHOULD BE REFERRED TO SECRETARIAT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS. CHIEF OF CITIZENS CONSULAR SERVICES UNIT CALLED ON DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CONSULAR SERVICES IN THE SECRETARIAT, WHO APPEARED ASTONISHED THAT THE REQUEST HAD BEEN DIRECTED TO HIM. THAT EVENING, MINISTER BRANDIN SPOKE TO UNDER SECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ABOUT THE MATTER. EMBASSY MADE A NUMBER OF CALLS ON THURSDAY UNCLASSIFIED

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TO THE DIRECTOR OF CONSULAR SERVICES AND WAS FINALLY NOTIFIED

THAT AUTHORIZATION HAD BEEN GRANTED THAT AFTERNOON UNDER THE CONDITIONS OUTLINED REFTEL. FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT WERE CONCLUDED THAT NIGHT BETWEEN THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND THE CHIEF OF CITIZENS CONSULAR SERVICES.

3. FRIDAY, MAY 9, JULYAN AND CONOFF VISITED LOS REYES WOMEN'S PRISON AND LECUMBERRI. CONOFF TOOK ADVANTAGE OF PRESENCE LOS REYES DIRECTOR TO TALK WITH HER, WHILE JULYAN SPOKE WITH NEARLY ALL AMCIT WOMEN. AT LECUMBERRI, JULYAN ADDRESSED APPROXIMATELY 50 AMCIT PRISONERS IN CAFETERIA OF BLOCK "O", WITH CELL MAYOR FERDINAND GARDINER PRESENT. AT BOTH PRISONS, JULYAN REPORTEDLY TOLD PRISONERS THAT MASS DEPORTATION NOT IMMINENT. HE ADVISED THEM TO "STAY COOL" DURING NEXT TWO MONTHS, WHILE FILER BEING REVIEWED IN WASHINGTON, AND TO COOPERATE WITH NEWLY ARRIVED EMBASSY OFFICIALS. JULYAN ALSO INFORMED THEM, AS HE HAD EMBASSY, THAT RUMORS OF STARK'S ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE CONFIRMED OR DENIED WITH HIM. HE SAID AFTER REVIEW OF FILES, CONGRESS AND DEPARTMENT WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE ON WAYS, SHORT OF DEPORTATION, USG CAN INFLUENCE GOM TO AMELIORATE AMCIT PRISONERS' SITUATION. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING BAIL IN DRUG CASES SOMETIME IN FUTURE.

4. AT LECUMBERRI, FERDINAND GARDINER CONSISTENTLY RAISED ISSUE OF MASS DEPORTATION SAYING, "WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO DEPART THESE GUYS. WE WANT TO GO HOME." GARDINER, OF COURSE, IS NOT AMCIT. CONOFF BELIEVES GARDINER REMAINED TO GATHER INFO ON INTERVIEWS FOR LT. COL. GIL CARDENAS, CHIEF OF SECURITY, WHO ACCOMPANIED JULYAN TO "O", BUT LEFT SHORTLY AFTER INTERVIEW BEGAN.

5. JULYAN SAW SOME CELLS IN "O" AND REPORTEDLY TOLD PRISONERS THEY WERE JEOPARDIZING THEIR OWN SITUATION BY TELLING REPORTERS, SUCH AS ESQUIRE'S CURTIS HARTMANN, WHERE MARIJUANA HIDDEN IN CELLS, ETC.

6. JULYAN SEEMED SATISFIED BY TALKS WITH PRISONERS, ESPECIALLY BY BELIEF HE CONVINCED THEM NOT TO RELY ON RUMORS OF STARK'S ACTIVITIES. HE FREQUENTLY SAID THAT CONGRESSMAN STARK WOULD PROVE TO BE EMBASSY'S BEST FRIEND. EXCEPT FOR GARDINER, JULYAN BELIEVES PRISONERS WERE NOT HOSTILE TOWARD HIM ALTHOUGH HE DISCOURAGED MASS DEPORTATION HOPES.

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7. INFORMATION PARAGRAPHS 3 THROUGH 6 PROVIDED BY JULYAN.
CONOFF WAS NOT PRESENT DURING JULYAN'S INTERVIEWS WITH PRISONERS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO04135
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750168-0466
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750558/aaaacaaj.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MEXICO 3964
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2003 by maginmm>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF DAVID JULYAN TO MEXICO CITY
TAGS: CASC, MX, (JULYAN, DAVID)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006